

INCOMING TELEGRAM

Department of State

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Action

Control: 2465

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Rec'd: AUGUST 5, 1959

Info

8:19 AM

SS

FROM: GENEVA

SP

TO: Secretary of State

C

NO: SECTO 465, AUGUST 5, 10 AM

L

PASS TO DEFENSE EXCLUSIVE FOR MCELROY, GATES, CHAIRMAN
JCS, KNIGHT FROM IRWIN

INR

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PART 1.

A. DISCUSSED WITH SEC/STATE C-130 FLIGHTS TO BERLIN AT
OVER 10,000 FEET AND PRESENTED TO HIM DEFENSE VIEWS CONTAINED
YOUR SSO JCS 464-59. SEC/STATE THOUGHT DEFENSE POSITION NOT
RPT NOT VERY INFORMATIVE AND REPEATED HIS COMMENTS MADE
AT MEETING ON 27 JULY REPORTED IN RHONE 051. LIKEWISE HE
THOUGHT AIR FORCE POSITION ON C-130 FLIGHTS TO MOSCOW
WEAKENED DEFENSE CASE FOR NEED TO FLY C-130 INTO BERLIN.
IF NOT RPT NOT ENOUGH C-130S IN EUROPE TO BE ABLE TO SPARE
ONE FOR OCCASIONAL FLIGHTS IN AND OUT MOSCOW, QUESTIONED
WHETHER THERE WERE SUFFICIENT AVAILABLE TO OPERATE REGULAR
SCHEDULE TO BERLIN. HE IS OPPOSED TO ADDITIONAL PROBES OR
OCCASIONAL FLIGHTS THAT MIGHT APPEAR TO THE RUSSIANS AND
CERTAIN OF OUR ALLIES PRIMARILY TO BE PROVOCATIVE RATHER
THAN AS A PART OF A REGULAR BERLIN SUPPLY
OPERATION.

B. HOWEVER, HE IS AGREEABLE TO DEFENSE'S BEGINNING
C-130 FLIGHTS ON A ROUTINE BASIS TO BERLIN AT ALTITUDES OVER
10,000 FEET PROVIDED DEFENSE CAN JUSTIFIABLY RELATE THE
FLIGHTS TO THE SUPPLY OF OUR FORCES IN BERLIN. DEFENSE HAS
INFORMED STATE THAT THE C-130 IS REPLACING CONVENTIONAL
CARGO TYPES AND THAT IT ESSENTIAL US ESTABLISH FLIGHT PATTERN
OVER 10,000 FEET SO C-130 CAN BE USED ECONOMICALLY TO
SUPPLY BERLIN. IF DEFENSE NOW RPT NOW PREPARED TO ESTABLISH

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-2- SECTO 465, AUGUST 5, 10 AM FROM GENEVA

A ROUTINE SCHEDULE WHICH CAN BE EXPLAINED REASONABLY ON ECONOMIC AND LOGISTIC GROUNDS TO OUR ALLIES AND TO THE RUSSIANS, HE IS AGREEABLE TO DEFENSE CONSULTING THE PRESIDENT AND, IF PRESIDENT APPROVES, COMMENCING SCHEDULED FLIGHTS.

C. RECOMMEND THAT IF ABOVE CRITERIA CAN BE MET, DEFENSE (1) MAKE NECESSARY PLANS, (2) INFORM SEC/STATE OF AND CONSULT PRESIDENT ON SUCH PLANS, INCLUDING DATE OF FIRST FLIGHT, AND (3) IF APPROVED, PROCEED TO FLY.

HERTER

SGC

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